

HEALTH CARE COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS. REFERENDUM.

ARGUMENT in Favor of Proposition 72

Across California, millions of people are working harder and harder to pay their bills. Worst of all is the skyrocketing cost they pay for health care.

Many companies are forcing employees to pay more for health care through higher premiums or cuts in coverage. For employees, higher insurance costs compete with their mortgage or rent, food, and transportation. Many employees are going without the medical care and prescription drugs their families need, creating a health care crisis in California.

It is simply wrong when employees can't afford health insurance for themselves and their children. 72 makes sure that private health insurance remains within reach.

72 WILL LIMIT WHAT EMPLOYEES PAY FOR HEALTH CARE

- **PROBLEM:** Employees are paying more—not just because of rising health care costs, but also because businesses are shifting a greater share of the burden to their workers. *The amount California families pay for premiums has increased 70% in the last three years.* Last year, employee premiums increased at *twice* the rate of business premiums. Unless something is done, more and more will be passed on to you.
- **SOLUTION:** Under 72, large and medium-sized companies must pay *at least* 80% of the cost of employees' premiums for health insurance.

72 WILL PROVIDE HEALTH INSURANCE TO 1.1 MILLION WORKING PEOPLE AND CHILDREN CURRENTLY UNINSURED

- **PROBLEM:** Some employers do not offer their employees insurance. The number of working people without insurance is increasing.
- **SOLUTION:** 72 requires large and mid-sized employers to pay for health insurance for employees, extending *coverage to an additional 1.1 million working people and their children.*

72 ENSURES COVERAGE YOU NEED

- **PROBLEM:** Already 30% of businesses say they plan to cut benefits. More will follow.

- **SOLUTION:** Under 72, coverage includes *prescription drugs, preventive care, and major medical.*

72 PROTECTS TAXPAYERS

- **PROBLEM:** California taxpayers pay \$4.6 billion annually to cover emergency room and health care bills for the uninsured. Taxpayers will pay even more unless something changes.

- **SOLUTION:** 72 protects taxpayers by providing health care coverage to an additional 1.1 million workers and their children, taking them out of emergency rooms and *placing them in the care of their own doctors.*

72 LEVELS THE PLAYING FIELD FOR RESPONSIBLE COMPANIES

- **PROBLEM:** Companies that *don't* provide affordable health care to their employees have an advantage over companies that *do*.
- **SOLUTION:** 72 *protects responsible companies from unfair competition* by requiring all large and mid-sized companies to pay for health care for employees.

Consumers Union, nonprofit publisher of *Consumer Reports*, says, "After studying Proposition 72, we conclude it is a necessary step forward that protects health coverage for working Californians."

By capping employees' health care premiums, 72 will keep private health insurance within reach of working families.

If nothing changes, workers will continue to pay more and more for health insurance—or lose their coverage. 72 provides an answer. It's a good first step in protecting employer-based health insurance—and the 19 million Californians who depend on it. Visit www.saveyourhealthcare.com.

RICHARD HOLOBER, *Executive Director*
Consumer Federation of California

DEBORAH BURGER, RN, *President*
California Nurses Association

RICHARD F. CORLIN, M.D., *Past President*
California Medical Association & American Medical Association

REBUTTAL to Argument in Favor of Proposition 72

PROPOSITION 72 WILL NOT CONTROL HEALTH COSTS

Health costs are skyrocketing but Proposition 72 WILL NOT control these costs. Proposition 72 makes the problem worse by creating a huge bureaucracy to administer a government-run health care scheme **COSTING EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS** an estimated \$7 BILLION by 2007.

PROPOSITION 72 CREATES A GOVERNMENT-RUN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

The backers of 72 are hiding the fact it creates a government-run system. Read it for yourself!—"Chapter 3. State Health Purchasing Program." Many people may lose their existing private coverage and end up in the state plan.

The former head of the state board charged with implementing 72 says it won't work:

"Proposition 72 is fatally flawed and poorly structured. It mandates coverage without controlling costs and forces workers and employers to pay whether they can afford to or not. Proposition 72 just doesn't work."

John Ramey, Former Executive Director
Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board

PROPOSITION 72 DOES NOT HELP THE UNINSURED OR TAXPAYERS

We all want to help the uninsured, but Proposition 72 isn't the solution. Up to 500,000 workers' jobs will be at risk if Proposition 72 becomes law. These people could end up unemployed AND uninsured.

THREATENS ACCESS TO YOUR DOCTORS

Under Proposition 72's state plan, you could lose access to your doctors and hospitals and have to be treated by government-approved providers.

Proposition 72 is not the kind of reform we need! **PLEASE JOIN DOCTORS, CHARITIES, EDUCATORS, AND TAXPAYERS—VOTE NO ON 72!**

THOMAS LAGRELIUS, M.D., *President*
California Chapter, Association of American Physicians and Surgeons

GLORIA RIOS, *Director*
California Association of School Business Officials

JON COUPAL, *President*
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association